

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 EC BRU 09661 091802Z

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SWF-01 AID-05 CEA-01 CIAE-00 COME-00

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PASS AGRICULTURE

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EPAP, EEC

SUBJECT: MORE ON SUGAR: COMMISSION SUGGESTIONS FOR POSSIBLE  
EMERGENCY COMMUNITY MEASURES

REF: EC BRUSSELS 9588

1. SUBSEQUENT TO THE DEVELOPMENTS REPORTED IN REFTTEL, WE  
LEARNED THAT THE EC COMMISSION HAS SUGGESTED IN A COMMUNICATION  
TO THE COUNCIL, POSSIBLE NEW MEASURES FOR DEALING WITH THE  
POTENTIAL SUGAR SHORTAGE IN THE COMMUNITY. THE STEPS RECOMMENDED  
WOULD BE DIRECTED TOWARD INCREASING SUGAR SUPPLIES AND DE-  
CREASING CONSUMPTION DURING THE 1975/76 SEASON. THIS COMMISSION  
COMMUNICATION IS MERELY A LIST OF POSSIBLE MEASURES. IT ASKS  
THE COUNCIL TO EVALUATE THEM AND THEN TO INSTRUCT THE COMMISSION  
TO DRAFT DETAILED PROPOSALS FOR COUNCIL LEGISLATION.

2. IN ORDER TO INCREASE SUPPLY, THE COMMISSION SUGGESTS  
REVIVING THE PRODUCTION OF SUGAR FROM MOLASSES THROUGH SUBSIDIES  
WHICH WOULD MAKE THIS PROCESS ECONOMICALLY FEASIBLE; AND  
DIVERTING A CERTAIN AMOUNT OF THOSE SUGAR BEETS WHICH OTHERWISE  
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PAGE 02 EC BRU 09661 091802Z

WOULD BE DISTILLED FOR ALCOHOL BACK INTO SUGAR PRODUCTION.

THE COMMISSION ENVISAGES AN INCREASED SUGAR AVAILABILITY OF APPROXIMATELY 280,000 METRIC TONS THROUGH THESE TWO COMBINED PROCEDURES.

3. IN ORDER TO REDUCE THE CONSUMPTION OF SUGAR, THE COMMISSION RECOMMENDS INCREASING THE AVAILABILITY OF SUCH SUBSTITUTE SWEETENERS AS SACCHARIN, INsofar AS NO HEALTH PROBLEMS ARE POSED. IN ADDITION, THE COMMISSION FEELS THAT GREATER USE OF GLUCOSE AND GLUCOSE SYRUP COULD BE ENCOURAGED IN THE COMMUNITY, THEREBY REDUCING SUCROSE CONSUMPTION ACCORDINGLY. FINALLY, THE COMMISSION URGES MEMBER STATES TO TAKE EXCEPTIONAL CARE IN MONITORING THE ADDITION OF SUGAR TO CERTAIN WINES IN STRICT ACCORDANCE WITH COMMUNITY LEGISLATION.

4. COMMENT: ONE OF THE COMMISSION OFFICIALS INVOLVED IN DRAFTING THIS COMMUNICATION TELLS US THAT THE SUBSTANCE OF THIS COMMUNICATION IS EXPECTED TO APPEAR ON THE AGENDA OF THE COUNCIL OF MINISTERS (AGRICULTURE MEETING SCHEDULED FOR DECEMBER 9 AND 10. HE ALSO ADVISES US THAT, FROM AMONG THE RECOMMENDATIONS PRESENTED IN THEIR COMMUNICATION, THE ONLY ONE OF ANY URGENCY IS THAT CONCERNING THE PRODUCTION OF SUGAR FROM MOLASSES. THE OTHERS WOULD NOT, IN ANY CASE, BE EXPECTED TO BE IMPLEMENTED BEFORE THE SUGAR PROCESSING YEAR BEGINNING IN LATE SEPTEMBER 1975.GREENWALD

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